mals are so thoroughly understood and portrayed, so real in appearance, that in spite of the painful story, a pleasurable wonder at its perfection displaces all disagreeable feeling.

A picture by the same artist, beyond all criticism, is that of "Alexander and Diogenes," —the expression is almost human, and yet as true to the reality as possible: never was there a finer bit of modeling than the white dog Alexander.

186. Mr. Pickersgill, R.A., stepping aside from portraiture, exhibits a subject, "The old Oak Chest." "Young Lovell's bride," a life-sized figure, is about to enter the chest which is to prove her coffin. The head is a brilliant piece of painting.

217. "Amalfi," C. Stanfield, R.A. One of those marvellous adaptations from nature on which this artist's name is so firmly founded.

252. "Chancel of the Collegiate Church of St. Paul at Antwerp," by D. Roberts, R.A. An interior, painted with the precision of a daguerreotype, and producing the very sensation of chilliness which belongs to this building.

282. "The Death-bed of Robert, King of Naples," A. Elmore, A., has some excellent passages, and the painting in parts is unexceptionable; but the picture wants general interest, and is mannered and meretricious. The heads of some of the figures are very good, and none better than that of the king; but as a whole, the picture does not leave so favourable an impression as some of his previous works.

336. "Euphrosyne," W. E. Frost, A. Admirably chaste, both in drawing and colour; perhaps not equal to the "Una" of last year, but laying claim to the highest encomiums. The utmost refinement without affectation, in conjunction with a true notion of the beautiful in nature, give Mr. Frost a right to the title of a first-rate artist.

383. "A Summer Morning," by F. R. Lee, R.A. and T. S. Cooper, A., is one of the most perfect pictures of its class in the gallery: each artist has outdone himself.

416. "Highgate Fields during the Great Fire of London, in 1666" E. M. Ward. Mr. Ward has shewn himself a man of mind, and of an original way of thinking. Last year his contribution was one of the finest wrought subjects exhibited, and promised great achievements in the profession. The present performance can scarcely take the same rank. 587, "Charles the Second and Nell Gwynne," by the same, displays some beautiful painting.

440. "Arlète, a Peasant Girl of Falaise, in Normandy, first discovered by Duke Robert le Diable," P. F. Poole, A. A wonderful picture for qualified colour: the painting and treatment of the landscape are admirable.

511. "Palmer and Sir Guyon's approach to the Bower of Bliss," W. D. Kennedy. This picture does not derogate from the usual ability of the artist; mannered certainly, but full of artistic quality. The colour of the two foreground figures is pure, and the whole agreeably peculiar; originality of style being the most striking trait in the picture.

515. "The Contest of Beauty for the Girdle of Florimel—Britomartis unveiling Amoret," F. R. Pickersgill, A. With many good qualities, this picture is less satisfactory than other of this artist's productions. The fine drawing, composition, and honest excellence that served to distinguish the Westminster Hall contribution of this painter are wanting.

529. "Queen Elizabeth discovers she is no longer Young," by A. Egg. One of the best pictures in the rooms. The queen is admirably conceived, the colour of the whole picture powerful as that of the old Venetian masters. It is composed simply, and with excellent judgment; there is a grandeur and largeness about it that is wonderful when the extreme nicety of finish is considered.

A great improvement upon former productions is the picture by Mr. H. N. O'Neil, "Catherine of Arragon appealing to Henry VIII." (542), exhibiting more particularly advance in feeling for colour and in execution. Weakness about the male figures is its chief failing. Nevertheless, much may be anticipated from this favourable change. The painting in parts need not be better.

Next week we will resume our notice.

AWARDS OF OFFICIAL REFEREES.

OUTSIDE BLINDS—TIMBER NEAR FLUES.

In the matter of an information laid by the surveyor of the district of South Kensington against Mr. Newson for irregularities in building some houses in Bute-street, it appeared that the subjects of the notice were Venetian blinds made of wood sliding over the face of the front walls of the ground-floor story in light wooden runners, fixed to and upon the face of the walls, and that the piers between the windows of the respective houses in question were about ten feet wide: and it also appeared that the several houses to which the said blinds had been put up do not stand up to the public way, but are separated therefrom by open areas, and that the fronts thereof are at a greater distance than 30 feet from the fronts of the buildings opposite thereto; and it further appeared that an alleged irregularity, the subject of a second notice, was, that certain of the filling-in joists, being of timber, were inserted half an inch into the 4-inch brickwork forming flues, and that the district-surveyor required either that the timber in this and such like cases should be 3 inches distant from such brickwork, or that the face of the brickwork should be plastered before the timber is placed against the same.

The referees determined, "As to the first alleged irregularity, that inasmuch as the blinds and runners in question are made of wood, and are put up or fixed upon the face of the external walls of the houses, and not in the reveals of the windows, so that every part thereof be flush with such face, the same are contrary to the said Act, but having regard to all the circumstances hereinbefore recited as to the nature and situation of the work in question, we make no direction thereon."

And as to the second alleged irregularity, "we do hereby find and certify, determine and award, that inasmuch as timber has been laid or placed within 3 inches of the brickwork of certain flues, the thickness whereof is less than 8½ inches, and the outside whereof had not been previously rendered or pargetted, the same is contrary to the rules and regulations of the Metropolitan Buildings Act, and we do hereby direct the said John Newson forthwith to remove all such timber in the five houses in question, as may be at a less distance than 3 inches from the brickwork of which the outside or face of all flues as are next the interior of the respective buildings in question are not rendered or pargetted with proper mortar or stucco to the satisfaction of the surveyor of the district."

ATTIC-ROOMS—CURB ROOFS.

In the case of an information laid by the St. Pancras district surveyor against Mr. M. F. Chapman, for certain alleged irregularities in houses in Drummond-street, one complaint was that the sloping part of the roofs of the said houses, viz., the front and back curbs, have been begun at a less distance than 3 feet 6 inches above the attic floor.

The referees determined,—"That inasmuch as it is not contrary to the Metropolitan Buildings Act to form curb roofs on dwelling-houses, it is unnecessary to require the provisions in respect of attic rooms to which the information refers to be literally observed where a curb roof is employed, and we make no direction thereon."

FURNITURE BAZAARS—PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

In the case of an information laid by the Marylebone district surveyor against Mr. Dent, in respect of certain alterations to his premises in Crawford-street, known as a furniture bazaar, the referees decided, That inasmuch as the building in question is used as a public bazaar, and any person is at liberty to go through without obstruction, it belongs to the public building class, must be altered in accordance with the regulations in the Act for such buildings, and must consequently have fire-proof accesses and stairs.

VENTILATION OF EMIGRANT SHIPS.—Bad ventilation in emigrant passage-ships, kills thousands. It has been suggested that if means were provided for *cooking the food under deck*, and their use made imperative, the fire would necessarily change the air, and prove a most powerful disinfecting agent.

WORKMEN ABROAD AND AT HOME.

IT is announced in respect of the "Drawing-rooms" about to be held, that "Her Majesty the Queen, ever desirous of giving encouragement to the trade and industry of the United Kingdom, and particularly so at this time of commercial depression, would wish to see them in dresses of British manufacture." This should lead us to doubt the truth of a statement recently forwarded to us, to the effect that much of the furniture required for the new apartments at Buckingham Palace is being made abroad!——The men in the employ of Mr. Thomas Cubitt have resolved, at a general meeting, "That, under existing circumstances, it is desirable to raise a fund, to be called "Cubitt's Workmen's Philanthropic Fund," to assist those men who formerly worked in the establishment, but are now out of work." Mr. Cubitt was requested to act as treasurer, and Mr. Dines was appointed secretary. Representatives of the various trades have been elected to form a committee, and a code of rules agreed on. The subscription is to be made for four Saturdays; and on the first of them 91*l.* were raised thus:—Men, including clerks and foremen, 39*l.* 9s. 11½d.; Mr. Cubitt, 50*l.* per cent. on the sum raised by the men, 19*l.* 15s.; Mr. Cuthill, 5*l.* per cent., 2*l.*; Mrs. Cubitt, 5*l.*; and Mr. J. A. Warre and friends, 25*l.* £27 were distributed to eighty-two applicants. We hope to see this example followed. The *Times* had a good article the other day on the effect produced on men by the conduct of their masters, and brings forward a John Higgins and Jem Stubbins in illustration. "Higgins works with a general contractor named Jones. Stubbins is journeyman to an upholsterer, named Tibbs. Higgins's employer is a man who began in the same condition as himself, and has worked his way up. Stubbins has done the same: but there the similarity ends. Higgins's master is kind, courteous, and genial; Stubbins's is hard, surly, and—as his men phrase it—"*rayther* high." The former looks after his men, has built them cottages, which he lets at a just rent, and a school for their children; he has also set a little savings-bank on foot, in which they deposit their earnings. His wife gives tea-parties to the women, and looks after the school. The other never took a moment's interest in his labourers, except when he wanted to canvass them for his own candidate; and Mrs. Tibbs, a *ci devant* lady's maid, is very fine and grand. Higgins's fellow-workmen are devoted to their employer; Stubbins's hate theirs. The consequences are what might be supposed." * * * "Jones's men are in the main content; Tibbs's think they are personally injured because they don't sit in Parliament, and pay themselves for the trouble. They hate the Throne, they hate the Church, they hate the aristocracy; but they hate with a ten times bitterer hatred the class of employers, whom they believe to be men without heart, without sympathy; living on their labour, and thriving on their wretchedness. Jones's men hate no order of society, because the only superior orders that they know of they find friendly, genial, and sympathetic." Indeed, it is by means as simple and orderly as these that the welfare of society is cemented. Half the grievances of any one man, and more than half the grievances of any one class, are sentimental ones. The Higginses and the Stubbinses are each a numerous body. Were all masters as indifferent or as haughty as Tibbs, all artisans would be as dissolute and as violent as Stubbins; but were all masters as kind and thoughtful as Jones, all mechanics would be orderly, peaceful, and well-disposed. We commend these remarks to the serious consideration of some of our large contractors.——*A Testimonial to the Metropolitan Working Classes*, of an appropriate and judicious description, in response to their recent demonstration on behalf of order peace, and law, has been suggested by Lord Robert Grosvenor, who has issued a circular urging the concurrence and co-operation of influential parties on behalf of the Metropolitan Benefit Societies' Asylum, at Ball's Pond-road, Islington, for the reception of the aged and infirm contributors to or members (male and female, and widows of members) of benefit societies, to which it is proposed to contribute funds sufficient to complete the building,

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